

Message Text

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44-S

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 EB-11 COME-00

INT-08 FEA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 IO-14 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8461

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0362

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, DA, ENRG.

SUBJ: CONVERSATIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER AND
FOREIGN MINISTER

1. I PAID MY INITIAL CALLS ON PRIME MINISTER HARLING
AND FOREIGN MINISTER GULDBERG THIS AFTERNOON. BOTH OF
THEM WERE IN A BUOYANT MOOD FOLLOWING THE GOVERNMENT'S
COMPROMISE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC
OPPOSITION WHICH HAS INSURED ITS CONTINUANCE (SEE SEPTTEL).
WHILE THE CONVERSATIONS WERE GENERAL IN NATURE THE
FOLLOWING POINTS WERE OF INTEREST:

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ENERGY CONFERENCE: GULDBERG SAID THAT HE WAS VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS PARTICPATION IN THE ENERGY CONFERENCE IN WASHINTON NEXT WEEK. HE HAD NEVER MET SECRETARY KISSINGER AND HOPED VERY MUCH THAT HE WOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. I ASSURED HIM THAT HE WOULD BE AMONG THE SECRETARY'S GUESTS FOR LUNCHEON ON MONDAY AND I FELT CERTAIN THAT HE WOULD ALSO SEE THE SECRETARY AT THE WHITE HOUSE DINNER THAT EVENING. (COMMENT: IF THE SECRETARY COULD ARRANGE TO SEE HIM ALONE FOR A FEW MINUTES ON SOME OCCASION I THINK IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL. AS FAR AS I KNOW, GULDBERG IS THE ONLY FOREIGN MINSTER ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WHOM THE SECRETARY HAS NOT MET.) GULDBERG SAID THAT DENMARK WELCOMED THE IDEA OF AN ENERGY CONFERENCE (THE PRIME MINISTER SUBSEQUENTLY SAID IT HAD BEEN A "VERY GOOD INITIATIVE") AND ADDED THAT DENMARK WOULD COOPERATE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT WANTED TO BUT BECAUSE IT HAD TO. HE EXPLAINED THIS LATTER POINT BY SAYING THAT DENMARK, THROUGH CONSCIOUS DECISION IN RECENT YEARS, HAD MADE ITSELF ALMOST TOTALLY DEPENDENT UPON IMPORTED OIL FOR ITS ENERGY SUPPLY AND THAT ANY THREAT TO THAT OIL SUPPLY WAS EXTREMELY SERIOUS. WITH A SMILE, GULDBERG ADDED THAT DENMARK'S ENDEAVORS TO BE HELPFUL WOULD, OF COURSE, BE WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP IN THE EC. I GAVE BOTH THE PRIME MINSTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER A COPY OF THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS TO THE H-Y-O GROUP IN ORDER THAT THEY WOULD HAVE OUR LATEST THINKING ON THE CONFERENCE. BOTH THANKED ME AND PORMISED TO READ IT.

DANISH-US RELATIONS: I REMARKED TO THE PRIME MINISTER THAT I THOUGHT OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS WERE NOW ON A GOOD FOOTING AND THAT WE HAD NO OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES. HE SAID THAT HE AGREED, AND THAT IT WAS THE INTENTION OF HIS GOVERNMENT TO WORK FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS WITH THE US. HE SAID, WITH A HINT OF NOSTALGIA, THAT HE WISHED THAT HE COULD TAKE GULDBERG'S PLACE IN GOING TO THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE BECAUSE HE HD ENJOYED SO MUCH HIS YEARS AS FOREIGN MINISTER. HE WENT ON TO RECALL ON COVERSAATION HE HAD HAD WITH DR. CONFIDENTIAL

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KISSINGER IN THE WHITE HOUSE SEVERAL YEARS AGO WHICH, FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW, HAD BEEN BOTH VALUABLE AND PRODUCTIVE. HE SAID THAT HE REGARDED THE SECRETTARY'S RECENT ACTIVITIES IN THE EFFORT TO REESTABLISH PEACE IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD AS "VERY MARVELS", AND HE WISHED HIM CONTINUED SUCCESS.

GOVERNMENT STABILITY: WHEN I REMARKED LIGHTLY TO HARTLING

THAT I THOUGHT TODAY'S COMPROMISE HAD ASSURED HIS GOVERNMENT MANY MONTHS OF RESPITE, HE SMILED AND HELD UP HIS THUMB AND FOREFINGER ABOUT THREE INCHES APART. ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN I DIRECTLY ASKED EIGEL JORGENSEN, MFA PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY WHO SAT IN ON THE CONVERSATION WITH GULDBERG, HOW LONG HE THOUGHT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SURVIVE, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD NOW GIVE IT AT LEAST A YEAR. THE BASIC COMPROMISE HAD BEEN MADE BECAUSE THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS SIMPLY DID NOT WANT TO FACE AN ELECTION AT THIS TIME.

COMMENT: I THINK HARTLING, WHOM I HAVE KNOWN PREVIOUSLY, CAN BE COUNTED AS A FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES; HE SHOULD BE HELPFUL ON THE BIG ISSUES. WITH HIS MINORITY GOVERNMENT, HE WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO LEAD A PRECARIOUS EXISTENCE - EVEN THOUGH HE NOW HAS A LITTLE BREATHING SPACE. GULDBERG I FOUND QUITE A DIFFERENT PERSONALITY. HE IS JUST BECOMING ACQUAINTED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BUT I HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT HE IS BEGINNING TO ENJOY HIS WORK AND THAT, UNDER HARTLING'S GENERAL GUIDANCE, HE WILL BE GENERALLY FRIENDLY. HIS REPUTED PRO-FRENCH PROCLIVITIES WERE NOT NOTICEABLY IN EVIDENCE DURING OUR DISCUSSION TODAY NOR HAD I EXPECTED THEY WOULD BE. ON FIRST MEETING, HE SEEMS ALMOST THE ANTITHESIS OF HIS P
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